



Conlang Critic Episode Fourteen: Ido

74,046 views • Apr 8, 2017



2.1K



140



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jan Misali

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Conlang Critic Episode Fifteen: Volapük / Volapük

jan Misali

58K views • 3 years ago

6:12



Conlang Critic Episode Sixteen: Dovahzul

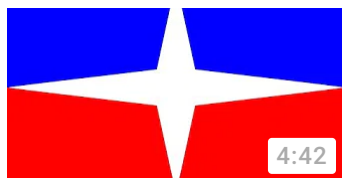
jan Misali

68K views • 3 years ago

SKIP NAVIGATION



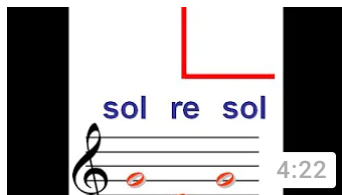
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**Conlang Critic Episode Seventeen: Interlingua**

jan Misali

58K views • 3 years ago

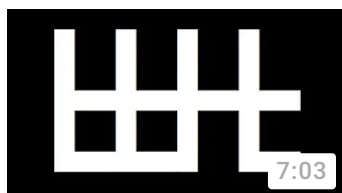
4:42

**Conlang Critic Episode Eighteen: Solresol**

jan Misali

55K views • 3 years ago

4:22

**Conlang Critic Episode Twenty: Zese**

jan Misali

87K views • 2 years ago

7:03

**sangman**

jan Misali

47K views • 4 months ago

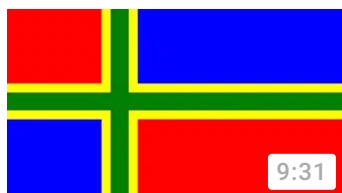
1:17

**Conlang Critic Episode Twenty Two: Lingua Franca Nova**

jan Misali

56K views • 2 years ago

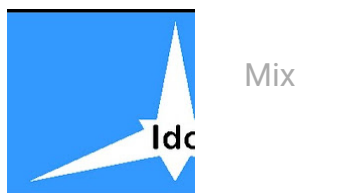
3:45

**Conlang Critic Episode Twenty Four: Folkspraak**

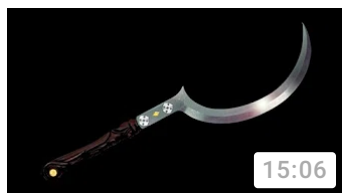
jan Misali

59K views • 1 year ago

9:31

**Mix - jan Misali**

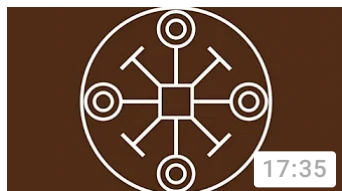
YouTube

**Conlang Critic: Dothraki**

jan Misali

77K views • 1 year ago

15:06

**Conlang Critic: Sambahsa**

jan Misali

68K views • 9 months ago

17:35

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Conlang Critic Episode One: Lojban

SKIP NAVIGATION



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5:32

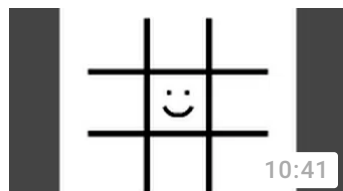
Conlang Critic Episode Two: aUI

jan Misali

76K views • 3 years ago



5:33

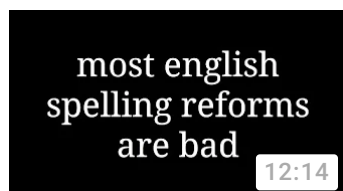


10:41

Conlang Critic Episode Three: Vötgil

jan Misali

122K views • 3 years ago



12:14

most english spelling reforms are bad

jan Misali

177K views • 6 months ago



5:35

Conlang Critic Episode Five: Ygyde

jan Misali

75K views • 3 years ago



5:22

Second Oldest Trick in Sleight of Hand

susiefilms

Recommended for you

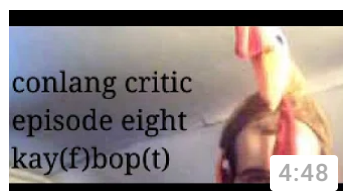


6:27

Conlang Critic Episode Six: Ithkuil

jan Misali

105K views • 3 years ago



4:48

Conlang Critic Episode Eight: Kay(f)bop(t)

jan Misali

87K views • 3 years ago

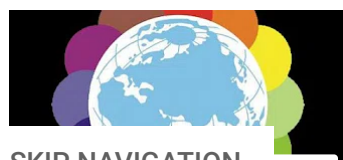


8:02

Conlang Critic Episode Twelve: Toki Pona

jan Misali

113K views • 3 years ago



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Conlang Critic: Lingwa de Planeta

jan Misali

70K views • 2 months ago

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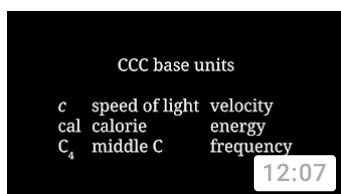
This video is

Recommended for you

**My First Conlang - How NOT to Make a Language**

Biblaridion

431K views • 1 year ago

**a joke about measurement**

jan Misali

87K views • 1 month ago

**Conlang Critic Episode Eleven: FluidLang**

jan Misali

66K views • 3 years ago

**there are 48 regular polyhedra**

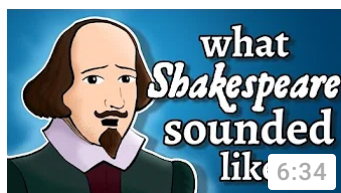
jan Misali

218K views • 3 weeks ago

**Conlang Critic Episode Twenty Three: Interslavic**

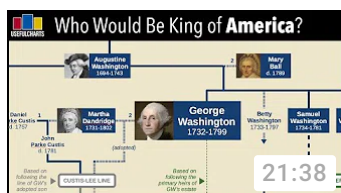
jan Misali

54K views • 2 years ago

**What Shakespeare's English Sounded Like - and how we know**

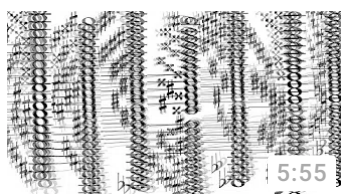
NativLang

3M views • 3 years ago

**Who Would Be King of America if George Washington had been made a monarch?**

UsefulCharts

2.1M views • 1 year ago

**The Largest Chord (sUPer UlTrA hYpEr MeGa MeTa LyDiAn)**

Leon Waves

Recommended for you

**the original Mario Bros.**

jan Misali



Spherical Geometry Is Stranger Than Hyperbolic - Hyperbolica Devlog #2

CodeParade ✓

Recommended for you

4:01



W

jan Misali

434K views • 1 year ago

18:28

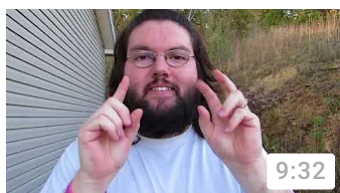


The Man Who Time Travelled 0.2 Seconds

Half as Interesting

Recommended for you

5:54



Why I Chose Esperanto And Why Learning A Constructed Language Isn't Bad

Seabolt TV

2.2K views • 2 years ago

9:32



How far back in time could you go and still understand English?

Yestervid

4.8M views • 4 years ago

2:37

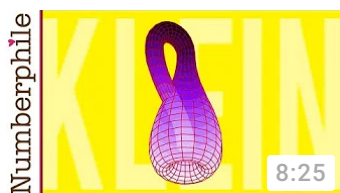


Proto-World and the Origin of Language

Xidnaf

394K views • 3 years ago

7:09

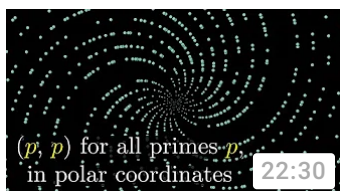


Klein Bottles - Numberphile

Numberphile ✓

Recommended for you

8:25

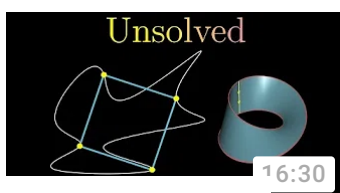


Why do prime numbers make these spirals?

3Blue1Brown ✓

Recommended for you

22:30



Who cares about topology? (Inscribed rectangle problem)

3Blue1Brown ✓

Recommended for you

16:30

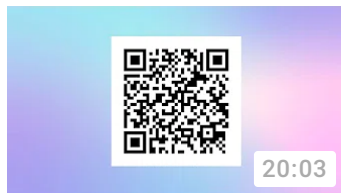
SKIP NAVIGATION



Can you fit a whole game into a QR code?

MattKC

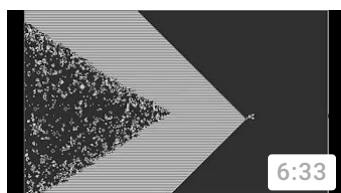
Recommended for you



English - What if English Were 100% Germanic?

Langfocus ✓

1.5M views • 3 years ago



epic conway's game of life

Oingo Boingo

Recommended for you



Austr(al)ia

Tapakapa

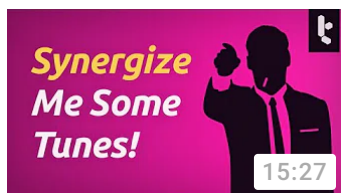
460K views • 2 years ago



AAVE - African American Vernacular English

Langfocus ✓

238K views • 1 month ago



Corporate Music - How to Compose with no Soul

Tantacrul

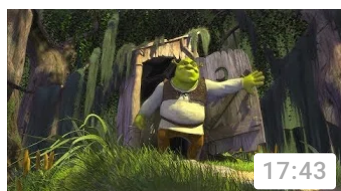
Recommended for you



The Big Problem With Cloverleaf Interchanges - Cheddar Explains

Cheddar ✓

Recommended for you



Why the Soundtrack to Shrek is Actually Genius

Sideways

Recommended for you



Cookie Clicker Explained

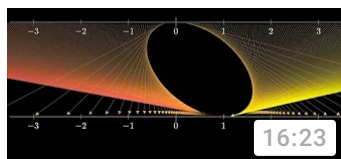
Alt Shift X ✓

Recommended for you

SKIP NAVIGATION



SIGN IN

**What they won't teach you in calculus**

3Blue1Brown ✓

Recommended for you

16:23

**Ra Ra Rasputin - April Fools 2020 ;) - Extra History**

Extra Credits ✓

406K views • 4 months ago

3:53

**The Billion Ant Mega Colony and the Biggest War on Earth**

Kurzgesagt – In a Nutshell ✓

Recommended for you

9:23

**The Bowling Alley Screen When You Get A Strike**

DigiLuxe Recreational Video

Recommended for you

1:46

**Presentation de Interlingua**

Marcus Scriptor

21K views • 8 years ago

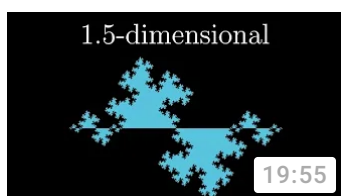
5:06

**Rhythm Heaven (DS) games in Rhythm Heaven Megamix DS/3DS comparison**

jan Misali

31K views • 11 months ago

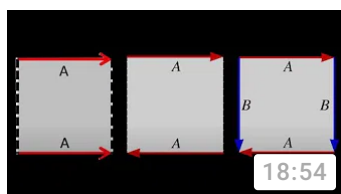
30:34

**Fractals are typically not self-similar**

3Blue1Brown ✓

Recommended for you

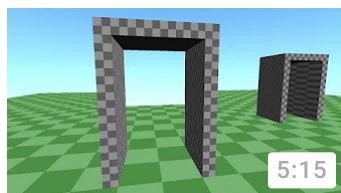
19:55

**These changed how I think about higher dimensions**

Zach Star ✓

Recommended for you

18:54

**Non-Euclidean Worlds Engine**

CodeParade ✓

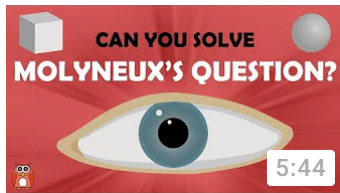
Recommended for you

5:15

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The Zipf Mystery

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Molyneux's Question - Can It Be Solved?

Smart by Design

Recommended for you



World's Most Complicated Writing System (corrections in the description)

Xidnaf

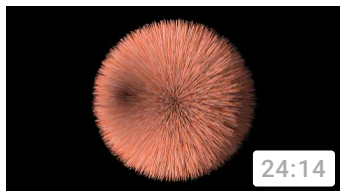
1.5M views • 6 years ago



The Best & Worst Fictional Flags & Emblems

The Templin Institute ✓

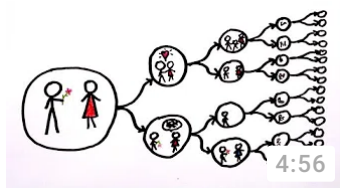
Recommended for you



The Banach-Tarski Paradox

Vsauce ✓

Recommended for you



THE UNIVERSE, EXPLAINED S2 • E1

The True Science of Parallel Universes

minutephysics

Recommended for you



Tom Scott vs Irving Finkel: The Royal Game of Ur | PLAYTHROUGH | International Tabletop Day 2017

The British Museum ✓

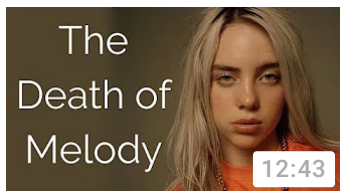
Recommended for you



What's special about 277777788888899? - Numberphile

Numberphile ✓

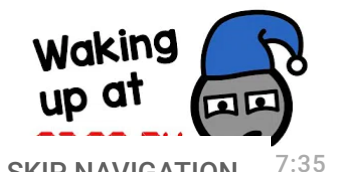
Recommended for you



The Death of Melody

Inside the Score

Recommended for you



Should We Ditch Time Zones?

Tapakapa

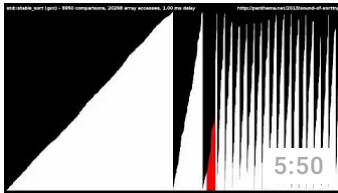
Recommended for you

SKIP NAVIGATION 7:35

SKIP NAVIGATION



Recommended for you

**15 Sorting Algorithms in 6 Minutes**

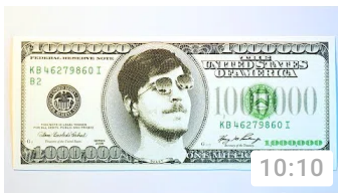
Timo Bingmann

Recommended for you

**I Paid Musicians \$1000 to play GIORNO'S THEME on BIZARRE Instruments...**

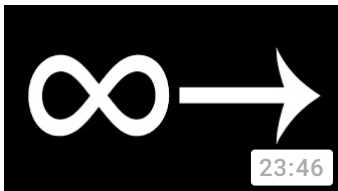
Rob Landes ✓

Recommended for you

**MrBeast's \$1,000,000 Dilemma**

Vsauce2 ✓

Recommended for you

**How To Count Past Infinity**

Vsauce ✓

Recommended for you

**Vsauce but out of context**

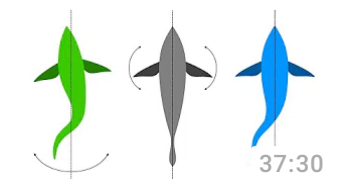
Silas Laspada

Recommended for you

**Googol and Googolplex - Numberphile**

Numberphile ✓

Recommended for you

**Alien Biospheres: Part 7 - Return to the Water**

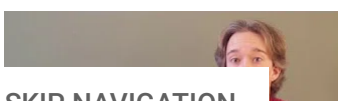
Biblaridion

136K views • 1 month ago

**How to make your writing funnier - Cheri Steinkellner**

TED-Ed ✓

Recommended for you

**The Link That Can Crash Chrome: http://a/%30%30**

Tom Scott ✓

Recommended for you

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SKIP NAVIGATION



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**9 Reasons to Learn Arabic || Lindsay Does Languages Video**

Lindsay Williams

274K views • 2 years ago

**3 Languages I Failed At....**

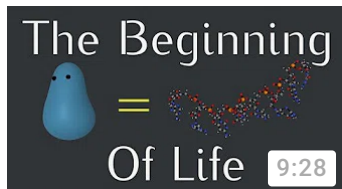
Jan & Lucas - LanguageBoost

14K views • 2 years ago

**58 and other Confusing Numbers - Numberphile**

Numberphile ✓

Recommended for you

**Mutations and the First Replicators**

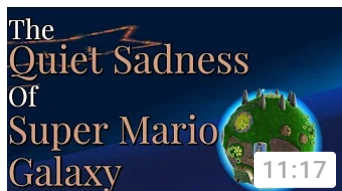
Primer

Recommended for you

**YouTube's Copyright System Isn't Broken. The World's Is.**

Tom Scott ✓

Recommended for you

**The Quiet Sadness of Mario Galaxy**

Jacob Geller

Recommended for you

**Music Software & Bad Interface Design: Avid's Sibelius**

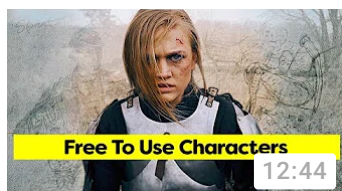
Tantacrul

Recommended for you

**ONE SQUARE City! NO ESCAPE!! (Cities: Skylines ONE Tile Challenge)**

Biffa Plays Indie Games ✓

Recommended for you

**10 Famous Characters You Technically Own**

AustinMcConnell ✓

Recommended for you

SKIP NAVIGATION

Why The YouTube Algorithm Will Always Be A Mystery

SKIP NAVIGATION



The MayDay Mystery: An Ongoing 30+ Year Old Puzzle | blameitonjorge

blameitonjorge ✓

Recommended for you



WOULD YOU SHARE IT OR STEAL IT? - The Evolution of Trust

MattShea ✓

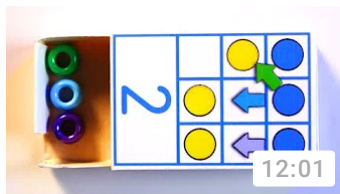
Recommended for you



All the Numbers - Numberphile

Numberphile ✓

Recommended for you



The Game That Learns

Vsauce2 ✓

Recommended for you



Who is the Chrome Dinosaur?

Ilyx ✓

Recommended for you



The Longest Con In Video Game History

Karl Jobst ✓

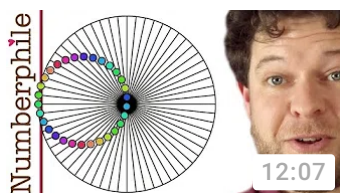
Recommended for you



Learn Python - Full Course for Beginners [Tutorial]

freeCodeCamp.org ✓

Recommended for you



Beautiful Trigonometry - Numberphile

Numberphile ✓

Recommended for you



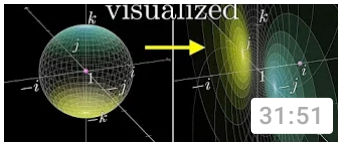
Single Point of Failure: The (Fictional) Day Google Forgot To Check Passwords

Tom Scott ✓

Recommended for you

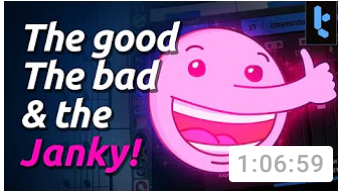
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SKIP NAVIGATION



3Blue1Brown ✓

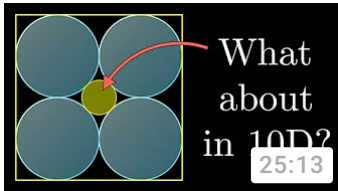
Recommended for you



Music Software & Interface Design: Steinberg's Dorico

Tantacrul

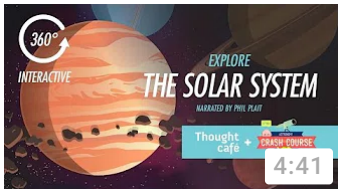
Recommended for you



Thinking outside the 10-dimensional box

3Blue1Brown ✓

Recommended for you



Explore The Solar System: 360 Degree Interactive Tour!

CrashCourse ✓

Recommended for you

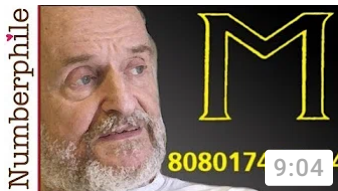
360°



Esperanto 100 important sentences - Popular Phrases - Quick Lesson

Education World

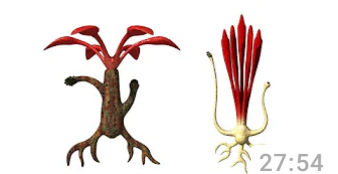
5.7K views • 1 year ago



Life, Death and the Monster (John Conway) - Numberphile

Numberphile ✓

Recommended for you



Alien Biospheres: Part 6 - The Open Plains

Biblaridion

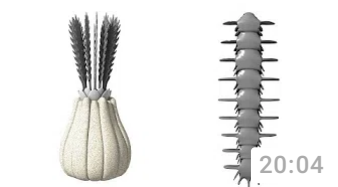
201K views • 3 months ago



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Digital Odisha

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Alien Biospheres: Part 2 - Early life and Body Plans

Biblaridion

306K views • 1 year ago



The Brachistochrone

Vsauce ✓

SKIP NAVIGATION



Bishop Pair from Hell | Artificial Beauty of AlphaZero

agadmator's Chess Channel ✓

Recommended for you

20:41

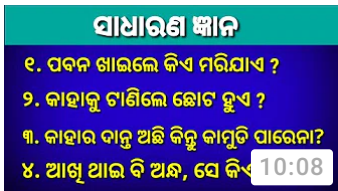


The Catalan Language

Langfocus ✓

590K views • 1 year ago

16:04

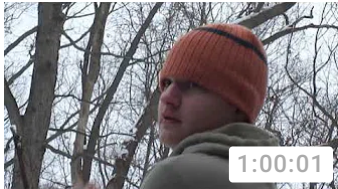


Odia General Knowledge | General Knowledge in Odia | Odia Brain Treasure Question and Answer |

HelpFor You

Recommended for you

10:08



here's tree (extended cut)

jan Misali

9.7K views • 4 months ago

1:00:01

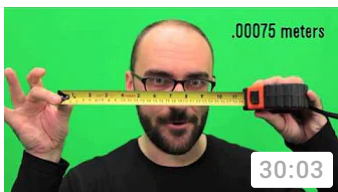


Squares and Tilings - Numberphile

Numberphile ✓

Recommended for you

16:35



Vsauce but out of context 2

Silas Laspada

Recommended for you

30:03



Analysing Mario to Master Super Mario Maker | Platformer Level Design

Game Maker's Toolkit ✓

Recommended for you

15:03

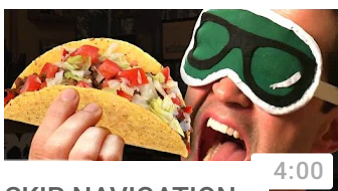


RetroAhoy: The Secret of Monkey Island

Ahoy ✓

Recommended for you

1:13:54



GMM S10 • E91

Blind Taco Taste Test

Good Mythical Morning ✓

Recommended for you

4:00

SKIP NAVIGATION



Recommended for you

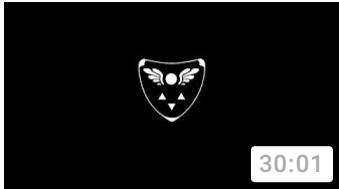
301 Views

9:48

Why do YouTube views freeze at 301?

Numberphile ✓

Recommended for you



Deltarune OST - Rude Buster ~Battle Theme~ (Extended)

Nael Leonhart

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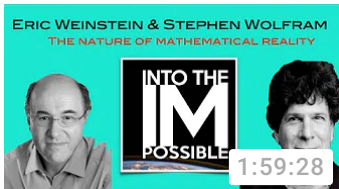
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📌 Pinned by jan Misali

Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

You have got to be about the most superficial commentator on con-languages since the idiotic B. Gilson.

Did I miss the one where you said which conlang you're fluent in and read at least three times a week and can read new books in every week or even one year or listen to radio shows in every week? New ...

👍 373 🗨️

⬆️ [Hide 502 replies](#)



jan Misali 3 years ago

New radio shows?

👍 326 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago (edited)

Yeah, I'm surprised you don't know that there are radio shows put out in Esperanto every week. I thought you were supposed to be an expert.

And, which of the conlangs are you fluent in?

👍 55 🗨️



jan Misali 3 years ago

I was born in 1998 so I don't know what a radio is sorry

👍 569 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I suppose you think that's cute. What it makes you is a fraud.

👍 91 🗨️



jan Misali 3 years ago

yeah but I'm a cute fraud though right?

👍 575 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I assume that anyone who is reading this should assume since you have not mentioned which one you actually can speak that the answer is you don't speak any of them .

Let me guess, you can speak English and maybe a little, tiny bit of a second language but you ...

👍 41 🗨️



jan Misali 3 years ago

ona ike! mi ken toki kepeken toki pona. taso, ona li toki lili. jan ale li ken kama sona toki



SIGN IN

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

toki pono or whatever it is? Give me a break. Show me the bibliography. Show me the speaking language community, show me the technical literature written or translated into it, show me the literature from many countries translated into it. I wonder, since its inspiration is supposed to be Taoism if they've translated any of the literature of Taoism into it.

52

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

toki pona is a game that is a little above pig-Latin and way below Ido. About its only virtue is that it lacks the nationalistic hegemony of Basic English.

I'd love to see someone try to translate a 4th grade level chapter book into it. Or try to. Why ...

51

**Mike S.** 3 years ago

Ouch.

56

**Flaming Obsidian** 3 years ago

I can translate the entirety of Moby Dick, if you want to challenge me. Also, Toki Pona has a whole community, unlike slowly dying Ido.

239

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

I'm not an idist, I'm an Esperantist, a language which has the largest "conglang" community in history. I bet you couldn't translate Moby Dick into toki pona and have anyone who hadn't read the original tell you what was going on in most of it. I'll bet your translation would be controversial. The language is radically vague except when talking about the simplest things. ...

43

**Mike S.** 3 years ago

This snippet is the entirety of the lackluster "Literature" section of Wikipedia's article on TP: "Lang has published proverbs, some poetry, and a basic phrase book in Toki Pona." Actually, there is a little bit more than that, but not much more. Perhaps the most significant work I can find is a translation of The Little Prince (https://failbluedot.com/toki_pona/jan_lawa_lili/). The translation however is not very faithful, but rather is heavily abridged. When you translate it back to English (to the extent that is even possible) and compare it to the original, it sounds like what you'd say if you were trying to explain the story to a 2- or 3-year-old child. All the little details melt away like snowflakes falling into a campfire. There is no alternative; TP lacks the necessary lexicon and syntax to faithfully convey the full story. It is essentially glorified baby talk, and I doubt the original author would have been very pleased with this translation.

Despite all that, Flaming Obsidian, I do challenge you to translate the entirety of Moby Dick into TP. I suspect it would be a good learning experience.



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I just looked at an article, I notice that it says the inventor of t.p. translated the Tao te Ching INTO ESPERANTO.

I like how she purposely limited the number of words for numbers so it wouldn't be easy to talk about "big numbers" in the language. Numbers like 5 and sixteen, apparently.

I've got nothing against people playing in the language but to pretend it's a real language with even an unsophisticated range of usefulness is simply not true. Seems to me if they're going to be true to the inventors intention they can't really make it so. Zamenhof invented Esperanto to do that and he built in means of extending a fairly small vocabulary into a far larger number of usable words. Claude Piron was able to write some fairly technical and sophisticated books as well as crime novels and even beginner books like Gerda Malaperis that, by the end of the book, feel quite normal.

I really meant it when I said that though I studied French and German for years and use them practically every day, Esperanto is the only secondary language that I can use with practically the same fluency and feel of fluency that I do my native English. And I don't speak it all that often. compared to French.

Show less

👍 23 🗨️



Flaming Obsidian 3 years ago

Simplicity does not mean stupidity. All of your points rely on the claim that simple things are for idiots. I know it may be difficult to translate things into Toki Pona, but that does not mean it is a dumb language. You could easily translate many things into V0tgil, but that does not make it a good language.

👍 231 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

A language of 120 words, designed by its inventor to not be able to express complex ideas or numbers bigger than - what was it in the official vocabulary, two? - cannot express complex thoughts in a clear manner. It would be like trying to translate a modern novel into an ancient language in which modern ideas and things had no vocabulary. Only without having the freedom to invent neologisms as they did in Finland when they tried to do their Latin news reports. They were popular but they had to invent a lot of words to pull it off.

I will bet if you came up with a toki pona translation of Gerda Malaperis by Claude Piron most of the users of t.p. wouldn't understand what the story was about or what was happening during most of it. Go on, prove me wrong. There must be an English translation of it somewhere.

Show less

👍 21 🗨️



Flaming Obsidian 3 years ago

~ " nge accepted.



SIGN IN

Here's chapter 1 of Gerda Malaperis. It only took me a few minutes to write it.

<https://pastebin.com/NzMGM4C2>

👍 107 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Let's see you translate the last chapter of it. The first chapter is the simplest one. How about the chapter where Linda is trying to figure out what she's going to do when the blond guy leaves.

I'd like some other toki pona user who didn't know the story prove they understood it on a cold ...

👍 8 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago (edited)

I retranslated your translation and it's hardly a clear translation of what the text says.

Am I right, you describe the blond young man as being pale yellow? Really?

👍 8 🗨️



Flaming Obsidian 3 years ago (edited)

No, pi linja jelo translates as "having yellow hair." Linja is a more informal term for hair, the more formal term being linja lawa. jelo walo is pale yellow. This must be a form of pigeon chess, to translate a text for somebody who does not know the language I am translating into.

👍 166 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I looked at t.p. and learned to read it once, though there wasn't much of anything interesting to read in it. It didn't take long. I am not impressed with the translation and I do doubt that if someone was unfamiliar with the story if they would really understand what is supposed to be going on in it. It would be an interesting test to make. I wonder what the inventor of t.p. would have to say about it.

As the story is in Esperanto, using pretty much exclusively a very small vocabulary, as I recall all of them standard, "official" roots and grammatical forms, it's obvious that E-o can do that.

Show less

👍 7 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

"Haha you don't know any conlangs"

"That one doesn't count"

👍 459 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

A conlang of 120 words, it has three numbers "one, two and many" because its author didn't like the language to have the ability to express "big numbers" and doesn't like the introduction



Basic English with its 850 words and magnifies them enormously. If you had read Gerda Malaperis, with its own radically reduced vocabulary, and read the "translation" of the first

chapter into toki pona linked to above, you would see that it isn't a language in any way. Some people call it a "pidgen" but it's not even that.

Anyone who thinks they can judge a real constructed language on the basis of toki pona is probably too ignorant to have an important idea on the topic.

So, you speak toki pona? I have a feeling the place it got the best workout was at the Esperanto Youth group's workshop on it at the International Congress a while back. I don't know if they taped it but it would be interesting to see how those conlangers who know an actual conlang did with it.

Show less

👍 13 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

lol

👍 168 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

So you don't speak toki pona. Why am I surprised?

👍 9 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

I'm sorry but I'm just having trouble comprehending the sheer volume of haughty obstinance it must take to engage with a comment that only says "lol".

👍 311 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

You should have put your period between "comprehending" and "the" and left everything after the period out.

👍 7 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

Is this your job, to do this?

👍 233 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

You've finally said something amusing. The idea that someone gets paid to promote a conlang or criticize one is mildly amusing. As is the idea that refuting you is work.

👍 7 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago (edited)



SIGN IN

someone for not being a die-hard esperantist.

👍 227 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I think fast and type fast. I write several thousand words most day. This is child's play.

I haven't made fun of anyone for not being a "die-hard Esperantist" I haven't made fun of anyone for not being an Esperantist. The only non-Esperantists I have anything against are those who say untrue things about the language as a language and a real phenomenon in the world.

My criticism of toki pona was with the idea that it was a language instead of a game. Try writing the English language using 120 words even if you use all of their grammatical inflections within that. The results won't be communication on any but the vaguest of levels. I have no problem with people playing with toki pona if they want to but to claim you could translate Moby Dick or even Gerda Malaperis into it is absurd. By the way, I respect toki pona enough to not capitalize it. I might think Ms. Lang is kind of eccentric but I don't have anything against her or her project, such as it is instead of such as it isn't.

Show less

👍 9 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

Well I'm glad to see you've found something productive to do with that big head of yours.

👍 161 🗨️



jan Misali 3 years ago

"I respect toki pona enough to not capitalize it"

https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/51UGifDjML._SX331_BO1,204,203,200_.jpg

👍 187 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

The instructions I found online said that it never used upper case letters, did that change or was the thing I learned to "read" it from wrong?

👍 7 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Hey, if you're going to get snarky I'm going to return it with attitude. I can also kick it around if necessary.

👍 4 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

Well, let's see it then. Go on and have a go at me.

👍 105 🗨️



4



sethraptor 3 years ago

No, actually.

94



Luis Manuel Ontiveros 3 years ago

+Conlang Critic thank you for pinning this absurd thread. You gained one more subscriber ;)

259



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago (edited)

sethraptor thank you for giving me something entertaining to read (that is to say, i'm on your side here, i wish english had affect suffixes)

90



sethraptor 3 years ago

Yeah seriously that would be so useful on internet.

88



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I'd have to see what it was, the active, using community it attracted, the ways it is USEFUL and the literature it produced. One person doesn't determine if one conlang is better than another, a

community that adopts and uses it does. That is if it isn't something ridiculously impractical such as Loglan or Toki Pona

The history of Esperanto "improvements" is a long one but the only ones that have been successful are minor points which have changed in the century + of its use by a community of users. The basic structure of the language has, already, passed the test of time in users whose native languages have been from many different families of languages around the world. Several of the best writers in Esperanto grew up speaking such non-Indo-European languages as Japanese and Hungarian.

Show less

8



Mike S. 3 years ago

Loglan is often presented as a "logical language", but actually it was a homebrew project putatively designed to test the **Sapir-Whorf hypothesis**. That needs to be fully appreciated if you wish to understand why the language was designed the way it was. Starting in 1955, the creator seems to have been working mostly on his own, with minimal input from others, and never incorporated the various advances in transformational grammar, formal semantics, case role theory, etc that appeared in the 1970s and 1980s. Along the way, innumerable kludges, patches and just plain bizarre design decisions found their way into the language over the time of several decades. Suffice to say that Loglan and Lojban should not be presented as IALs.

However, just as with Toki Pona, some enthusiasts did not get the memo that the language was



SIGN IN

arguably helping to avoid misunderstandings. Whether a properly reformed loglanoid would ever attract a significant following and a movement is, of course, an entirely different question.

Show less

68



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Last time I looked one of the inventors of Loglan bragged that two people had actually sustained conversation in it for 45 minutes. I believe by that time in the history of Esperanto there had actually been international congresses conducted entirely in the language with participants from many different countries. Let me know when the world-wide community of those who could ...

6



sethraptor 3 years ago

I'm no expert, but it seems to me like if you judge every "conglang" against the virtues of Esperanto, then of course Esperanto is going to come out on top since it literally is Esperanto. Of course a minimalistic spiritually minded experimental language isn't going to be tremendously successful as an international auxiliary, especially compared to THE "definitive" auxlang that is ...

196



Mike S. 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy, perhaps you aren't aware of some the current usage in Lojban (Loglan's successor language). Currently there is a good amount of conversation occurring in Lojban, both in IRC and voice chat. There are translations and there is also some original musical output on Youtube and Vimeo if you're curious. I am not trying to compare Lojban to Esperanto. I'm ...

66



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I have read about Lojban, it is essentially the same language with some differences to get past the copyright on it, as I recall.

If it isn't as simple to learn as Esperanto has proven to be over decades, I doubt it has much of ...

8



Mike S. 3 years ago

Natural languages get pretty complicated and are still used, so I don't think the degree of simplicity of Esperanto is a necessity for learning. Simplicity is not the end-all that trumps all other considerations, but is one goal that has to be balanced with other goals, such as versatility and the possibility of expressing precise, nuanced thoughts. Esperanto and Lojban don't have ...

76



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

A second language isn't learned under the same conditions under which a mother tongue is, learned from birth as the first means of communication, during all of the waking hours a child experiences. A conlang would be learned in a way more like a second language learned in



SIGN IN

I'm skeptical about the linguistic theory that Loglan was formed to demonstrate, I've got no problem with people playing with it but it's not going to be widely used because it is too different from most or any other language.

Show less

👍 7 🗨️



Mike S. 3 years ago

Anthony, any second language, if it's going to be learned at all, is going to be learned only by the minority of people who are motivated to learn it. Esperanto is no exception. No matter how simple a language is (assuming it's fully functional and not a toy like Toki Pona), learning still requires significant practice and memorization. It takes commitment.

In the case of Lojban, Lojban is learned by the sort of people who want to learn Lojban and absolutely no one else. I have been studying the language for a while, though I am not fluent. I share your skepticism of Sapir-Whorf, assuming you are referring to that, but I do think that Lojban is worthwhile for the purpose of bringing preconceptions to consciousness and encouraging clear and precise thinking. As I said earlier, the language could stand a serious reformation -- I agree with you that it should be made simpler in order to learn and use. I agree it's more complex than it needs to be, but that's the way it is for now.

Show less

👍 58 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

mostly he knows how to be evasive and a pedant.

👍 106 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

I see anthony as the kind of guy who sees himself as some kind of big intellectual, but the only way he has to express his expert thesaurus reading skills is on youtube, where he picks fights by way of hyperbole.

Mike is all about the facts, and argues with information. He doesn't worry so much about how the debate will turn out in the end because he's just in it for the pursuit of truth.

I think what this comment thread really means is that argument for the sake of argument is

futile, and by injecting the thread with personal emotional investment, Anthony has set himself up from the start to have accomplished nothing by the end of this treacherous journey.

Show less

👍 141 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Oh, for crying out loud. I've been reading and participating in conlang discussions for decades. I know what I'm talking about, if that's pedantic, I'm not ashamed of it. I do, actually, USE one and have looked at several of them in depth. Mordu min.



SIGN IN

Anthony McCarthy decades? Christ you must be boring

106



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

As I say to my students, boredom is a sign of stupidity.

5



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy a) you dont say that, you just wanted to flaunt the fact youre a teacher as though thatd equate to some intellectual authority

b) so youre never bored? when youre grading your students' tests you sit at your desk fucking ecstatic, having the time of your life? if not then ur an idiot according to urself

c) if i a) had students and b) told them that every single person named anthony is a 45 year old mine who was recently divorced with one rebellious teenager daughter who wears shorts and has white socks with one red and one blue stripe with a beer belly who sits at his desk looking down at his monitor with his glasses low down on his nose, it wouldnt make it true

Show less

115



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Well, you are just about entirely wrong in all your speculations.

If you think conlangs are boooorrring and you come here to talk about them you can't be too bright. It's such a novel concept to so many of you guys, knowing what you're talking about.

5



sethraptor 3 years ago

I used to think someone who is decades old would be above fighting with <2 decade olds on youtube comments but I guess you can never know anything these days.

117



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Oh, is that what you think. Or is that what you just said. I can assure you, I'm quite able to kick it around with you young'uns. Especially if you don't bother to know what you're talking about, which is what surprised me.

3



sethraptor 3 years ago

Well you see Anthony I actually can't know what I'm talking about, because it all depends on the country, region, and social context. Because of this fact, knowledge is unknowable to any single human.

1



SIGN IN

here if I didnt like conlangs?

👍 79 🗨️



Luis Manuel Ontiveros 3 years ago

Stop feeding the troll... (unless this is all becoming ironic, which is hard to tell :v)

👍 82 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

As the other guys don't seem to know anything about the topic, it's ironic that you'd call someone who does a troll.

I guess it's always a rule of comment tread commenting, that ignorance rules because those ar...

👍 5 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

How is that for irony, Anthony? Care to elaborate?

👍 94 🗨️



Luis Manuel Ontiveros 3 years ago

You know, I think I'm actually sort of starting to like your idiotic comments again :) keep 'em coming!

👍 63 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Because a "troll" was originally a person who didn't address the issues at hand. Now it apparently means someone who knows enough to be able to do that as opposed to people who don't and so can't.

👍 2 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

Well I'm glad there's at least one person here with the knowledge to maintain some level of academic excellence for this comment thread at youtube dot com

👍 75 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

"SAD!""SAD!""SAD!" Did you learn English from reading Donald Trump tweets?

Toki pona doesn't even have an official word for a number other than one, two and "many", it was designed to only be able to express the most minimal of information and, as the "translation" of even the first, most vocabulary limited chapter of Gerda Malaperis shows, it can't even really do that. It doesn't have user community, it has a gamer community. Lojban has a tiny number of people able to use it and it's so difficult and artificial that it is destined to never have more than a user community. Neither are a viable conlang.



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Well, you would seem to have other habits in common with Donald Trump, not being able to understand when what you want to be true has been refuted, for one. So, where is the rest of

the Gerda Malaperis translation into Toki pona? You don't even have to go to the last chapter which uses the full c. 500 root vocabulary of the book, that one where Linda is trying to decide what to do if the blonde guy gets up and leaves will make the point that, no, very little can be translated into Toki pona and have another TP user understand it. I think it's something like the ninth section of the book, though I'd have to look. Obviously, you can say it in Esperanto since the book was written as a beginner's reader in that language, one which has been successfully used and understood by many thousands of Esperanto users and speakers.

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Conlang Dude 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy if you want I'll translate that section if you find it. I've never read Gerda Malaperis, but then why would I? The only reason it's at all noteworthy is because it was written in a conlang, not a particularly good one at that. Anyway, give me a link to a section and I'll translate it. You can find some Toki Pona user to read it and let's see how close they are. Until ...



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

The trick is translating it in a way so that a person who doesn't know the story, or the section translated, would understand what was going on in it. I was familiar with the story and I am familiar with Toki pona and I would never have been able to figure out what was happening in the story. Toki pona, with its radically tiny vocabulary cannot do what is done by Claude Piron in that book, give people an easy to learn language which will provide them with a vocabulary and grammar able to do what can be done in any natural language with the same level of precision and specificity. If you want an easier challenge you could try to translate the texts and exercises of the Zagreb Method textbook - available all over the place, free, online, with an even more reduced vocabulary. I will bet you won't get far into it before the resources of Toki pona are proven to be unable to produce the same equivalent use of language that Esperanto does and has since the end of the 19th century. I counted the vocabulary for the first lesson at about 40 words, or a third of the entire corpus of Toki pona, By the time you get to lesson 4, you already surpass the corpus of T.P. words for numbers and I'm sure in many other categories of vocabulary.

I am sure you might give some vague sense of what is going on in the original, though not much that is very specific. And according to the inventor of the language, that was her intention. To only be able to talk about very simple things, not a full range of human experience. It does no one any good to pretend you could possibly do that with 120 words. Plus or minus "unofficial" neologisms which, as it is the nature of neo-logisms, will start muddying the water as fast as you invent them to clear things up. Anyone who has ever read novels in a second language will know that experience, especially when those words are ones you can't find in any but the most



language, you're more likely drive your reform into absurdity. I can read too - it's really a dialect of Esperanto, more or less - but if I'm going to use a conlang I want one where people will understand what I'm saying instead of being confused by my "improvements" or "reforms" or neologisms. I do agree with the late Claude Piron on the desirability of clarity over novelty. I am certain you will never be able to translate his fine study *La Bona Lingvo* into TP.

As I said, I have no problem with people wanting to play with Toki pona or Lojban or Ido but except for the ever fading project of Ido, there is no chance of them becoming a useful conlang for general communication.

Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

The word, itself, isn't old, it came up on Usenet in 1991 and I would call your attention, such as it is, to the first line from Merriam Websters:

Definition of conlang

: an invented language intended for human communication that has planned and cohesive phonological, grammatical, and syntactical systems

"Intended for human communication" contains more than can be expressed in any 120 +- word game. If 120 words, why not 12? Why not 2? Yes No. You could communicate something with just Yes and No but nothing clearly about something and no more information than affirmation or negation. It's almost certain that more times than not one or both parties won't know what is being talked about or what is being affirmed or negated.

Your statement about the example of Gerda Malaperis is a transparently dishonest dodge. I proposed the test of Toki pona because it is a novella written very successfully, communicating quite clearly in a vocabulary of about 500 word roots, many of which are grammatical affixes. I would hazard the guess that any natural language which is used to communicate about life in the late 20th and early 21st century could come up with a translation of it which carries the full meaning of the story, probably most of it in fairly direct, literal translation due to the flexibility of sentence structure in Esperanto. I'm sure there could be a totally successful translation into many conlangs, but not Toki pona because it lacks sufficient vocabulary and clarity BY THE DESIGN OF THE WOMAN WHO INVENTED IT. I'm sure there is probably a possibility of doing a translation into Lojban, though perhaps not as the language was constructed, supposedly to make lies impossible to tell in it and lies play an important part in the story.

You don't know what you're talking about.

Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

No, let's not leave it at that because any conlang that hopes or deserves to become an actual, used language exists to facilitate human communication, not to test a theory or a flaky idea that one has. There is a very good word for "language" projects that aren't for general



I very seldom talk about conlangs or language in general while using Esperanto, I talk about all kinds of other things unrelated to language and language problems. And I do it with people who can understand what I'm saying with the same level of precision that others can when I'm speaking my native language.

I do, by the way, think it would be a very good test of the theory behind Loglan-Lojban to see if a story in which lies play an intrinsic part could be translated into it. If those lies could be

expressed in the language, they're obviously not a test of the theory. If they can't, then could you lie to the Nazis about where their intended victims were hiding in it? I wonder if anyone has ever tested the theory in that way.

Show less



sethraptor 3 years ago

Listen guy, academic linguistics doesn't even all agree on what a language is for normal old natural languages, so it's awful big-headed of you to think that you can make the distinction between what is and isn't a "real" "conlang". This especially when your distinction is based on whether the "project" in question imitates natural language,



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago (edited)

I would bet you that you could get a hundred academic linguists in a room and ask them if a language that limits itself to 120 words, has no word for numbers other than the ones TP is limited to, other radical limitations in essential words denoting specific things, actions and conditions of being, etc. and not one of them would say it was a real language, some might note what I have, that such a thing is a game.

Any language that deserves that designation will enable those who use it to conduct all of their day-to-day communication within a reasonable range of specificity. Any which don't aren't languages. Those dead languages which left no or minimal remnants vocabulary which are available to us today could not be considered a language that still exists, though they once did. In the same way any constructed "language" which limits itself to a vocabulary of a similar number of words is, essentially, in the same category by design.

So, guy, why don't you go ask a bunch of "academic linguists" about that instead of just assuming they'd agree with you. I'm not that impressed with academic linguistics, George Lakoff, for example, I'd like to hear their reasoning if they agreed with you. It might be fun.

Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Good.





SIGN IN

56



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

You said "academic linguistics doesn't even all agree on what a language is" which is a different thing than the study of language in general. I doubt that until the 20th century that "academic linguistics" had much of anything to do with constructed languages and, as in the case of Glosa, Interglosa, Novial, especially Interlingua and a host of others, the association was hardly a great success. Why don't you read the late Don Harlow's history of conlang projects before you go on. Look up "Don Harlow How To Build A Language Esperanto Book".

I think the reasons Esperanto worked were a. The fact that Zamenhof spoke several languages and read more, b. he had the failed example of Volapuk to learn from, c. he took a practical instead of a theoretical-academic approach to the problem. His overall goal was communication among people who didn't speak a common, natural language, not to illustrate some academic theory or other.

Show less

5



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy i never realized pirahã isn't a real language

69



Conlang Dude 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy Similarly, Toki Pona achieves its goal. It's goal was to create communication with a radically small vocabulary. It does this, it does it effectively, and most importantly it does it functionally. By design it isn't meant to go into specifics but specifics in a sentence don't limit communication by very much. Take the sentence "I glanced at the words littering the page, before flicking my eyes over to him." It's a relatively detailed sentence. Now saying "I looked at the words on the paper, then I looked at him," doesn't communicate anything different. Now you could translate "mi lukin e nimi pi lipu. mi lukin e ona" as either because they both mean the same. Being able to differentiate between "disgusting paste (ko jaki)" and "mud" isn't necessary because 99 times out of 100 it makes sense contextually. Your argument is that TP has no detail but details come from context.

Show less

66



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I'd like to see someone write a news report into the Trump-Russia scandal in T.P. Or the firing of James Comey. How would you say, "Donald Trump fired James Comey to try to stop the Russian election hacking investigation".

You limit your vocabulary to 120 words, you'll find yourself severely limited in what you can talk about and what you can say about that. You want to play with that, I'm not against that. Pretending it can function as a full language is a fraud.



SIGN IN

language.

Show less

3

**BLACK SHEEP** 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy "Akesi utala jan pali e James Kome tawa pali tawa pakala ike e Lusia pali kulupu tawa lon li e ike tawa oko li sona"

46

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

The test would be to give that to someone telling them nothing about what it said and seeing if they could figure out what you were saying. Someone who didn't know anything about it. I will bet it wouldn't work because, frankly, I can't figure out what you're referring to and I proposed the sentence. Give a word for word translation back into English.

4

**Conlang Dude** 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy "jan Tono Tunpu li pakala e pali pi jan Kemu Komi la ona li ken pakala e lukin pi pakala pi lawa pi jan ale pi ma Lusa pi jan Kemu Komi."

34

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

I know that's a language which also doesn't have words for numbers beyond two, or is it three. Other than that, perhaps like you, I don't really know much about it. I do know that the people who use it would have to have more specific means of talking about complex things than Toki pona provides or they'd all have died out. ...

3

**BLACK SHEEP** 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy So?

34

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

So comparing a real language with Toki pona and claiming that TP can stand on an equal footing with it is absurd. In the context of the lives of the people who speak Priaha, it's clear they don't require numbers larger than two. Who in among the Toki pona community lives a life where they can get away with such innumeracy?

If they tried to conduct business at the U.N. in Toki Pona I wonder what they'd be able to do. I'm fairly confident that they'd be able to do most of not all of it in Esperanto, or Ido, for that matter. Claude Piron was a UN interpreter, by the way.

I really would like to see how many people who didn't know anything about the Trump-Putin deal would know that's what your translation of that sentence was talking about because I



Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

OK, so neither of you will do the exercise of giving a word for word retranslation back into English so people will know what you think means what the original says. I took yours and put it in an online Toki pona to English translator - so no one can say I twisted it and this is what yours says

person Tono Tunpu is blunder such work belonging to people Kemu Komi it's said he is is able to blunder such see belonging to blunder belonging to head of people ale of land Lusa belonging to people Kemu Komi

Here's what it gave back for Nathan Harding's

reptile conflict person activity such James Kome to activity in order to blunder bad such Lusia work community to be in/at/on be there is such negative to eye is wisdom

If you want to give your own word for word retranslations, I would like to see them.

Show less



sethraptor 3 years ago

Toki Pona isn't *meant* to be used to conduct business at the U.N.



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy you cant do word for word translations because a) what is and is not a word isnt a concrete thing b) toki pona doesnt have words for "to fire", "to hack", "to elect", "to stop" or "russia"



sethraptor 3 years ago

Of course a machine translation isn't going to work for Toki Pona, jesus lord almighty. All you've been doing this whole time is constructing a point of view specifically designed to shit on Toki Pona and glorify precious Esperanto, and repeating it over and over again without giving any justification or reason why any of us should give a rat's ass what *you* think a "real" conlang

is. To be entirely honest Anthony, if you don't think it's interesting to make an experimental conlang that explores what language is and what it's capable of, I don't know what the *fuck* you're doing in the conlang community. Either explain to us why this wild distinction you're making is somehow neither meaningless or arbitrary, or shut up about how good you're stupid new radio shows are and how this other language *intentionally designed* not to encompasslicated ideas is bad for not being able to express complex ideas over and over forever.



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

So, you do it, retranslate what you translated into Toki pona, word for word so people who haven't spent the several days it takes to be able to master its 120 words and grammar will know what you think contains the meaning of the original so they can judge if it's clear what it's talking about.



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

You could translate the words you claim carry the same meaning of the original sentence, that it would prove my point that Toki pona cannot function as a real language but only - as a means of saying extremely simple things- as its inventor intended. It can't translate Moby Dick as was claimed, it can't even translate that one sentence and produce a clear meaning as to what is ...



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Why, Donnie, I didn't think you spent your time on Youtube conlang comment threads. I have a feeling that Comey, when he's asked, under oath will deny what Trump claims about him telling him that - especially the version in the interview with Lester Holt because Comey isn't stupid enough to have broken the law by setting up a quid pro quo (how do you translate that into Toki pona, I wonder). Donald Trump has criminal reasons to have tried to stop the investigation into his campaign and regime committing treason with the Putin crime family, I can only imagine how many family members and associates he's going to pardon as he flees on a chopper with a guarantee by Pence (assuming he hasn't already been forced out) that he'll pardon him like Ford pardoned Nixon.

Why does it surprise me that the rest of it sounds like Trump, too?

Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

So you don't do English particularly well, do you. I listened to the hearing where Clapper and Yates testified, that's not what they said.

Apparently the reason you don't notice that Toki pona isn't a real language able to deal specifically with anything but the simplest level of vague communication because you don't think at a very high level, either.

How many of the guys I've been arguing with are your sock puppets?

Show less



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy they dont do english at all they speak it





SIGN IN

14

**Conlang Dude** 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy Anthony McCarthy "jan Tono Tunpu li pakala e pali pi jan Kemu Komi la ona li ken pakala e lukin pi pakala pi tomo lawa pi jan ale pi ma Lusa pi jan Kemu Komi."

[honorific] Donald Trump (closest TP approximation) destroys the job of [honorific] James Comey (again a TP approximation) so/to he can destroy the looking of the destruction of the head house of all people by Russia of James Comey.

Show less

34

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago (edited)

What did I say that was not true?

No one who didn't know what was going on in the news would have understood either of those sentences in Toko pona. "mi povas diri unu aferon al vi" really, which online translator did YOU use.

Eble ili kredas ke vi pravas, "kredas" cxar ili ne pensas. Ili scias nenion pri la problemoj de interkomunikado. Por ili, estas ret-ludilo.

Friggin' TP has got me all messed up. Bah!

Show less

2

**sethraptor** 3 years ago

Just so no-one gets me mistaken, I am *not* a trump supporter.

62

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

I wonder how many of those are your sockpuppets.

And as I told someone above, mordu min.

1

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

I suspect that one of your commentators might be the anti-Esperanto troll Bruce Gilson who used to infest conlang discussions, he was a right wing Republican, as I recall.

1

**sethraptor** 3 years ago

rawr XD bites u >w<





youtube?? also ive never ever seen, heard or otherwise communicated with someone who i knew was white as quickly as you

👍 52 🗨️



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

sethraptor we must be annoying the fuck out of mitch

👍 38 🗨️



sethraptor 3 years ago

Sorry Mitch

👍 100 🗨️ ❤️



Luis Manuel Ontiveros 3 years ago

Lol. I'm still getting my daily update of this mess :v

👍 34 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I have no idea why several people who obviously know nothing about conlangs are doing this, I'm just answering them. As a comment down thread says, I'm getting updates on this and most of them seem to be attacking what I said. I don't have any problem answering them because most of the stuff is either silly on its face or stuff that was said in conlang discussions before the word was invented and before most of you were born.

That one or more of them are suckers for Donald Trump even as he proves himself to be a liar, a traitor and a pathological falling despot doesn't surprise me.

Show less

👍 3 🗨️



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy yes youre right akira (and almost definitely seth, mike s, etc.) and i have made conlangs but we dont know what they are according to you, and im not a narcissist im a fucking dumbass who hates themselves but seth, akira and i havent said a word that's untrue or false (unless it was sarcastic but youre a big boy, you can figure that out yourself)

👍 29 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

A conlang made by someone who has a habit of attributing statements to people who haven't made them, I wonder what that would be like. Where is it published, I want to see it.

It's no great achievement to having constructed a language project, as Don Harlow pointed out in that chapter I recommended to you, Mario Pei said he used to get several sent to him every month. The only one that has ever been more than a scheme or a project, both generating an actual user community which uses it for actual communication on a sufficient level, over more



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy im sorry are you genuinely trying to say that one's personality and traits come across in their conlang(s)? i'm sorry, are you really that stupid? also, sorry, you're right, nothing seth, akira, etc. and i has ever made is a real conlang, because they're not as good as esperanto



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Getting insults from someone like you don't bother me. If you'd given me reasons to respect your thinking it might.

If you want to create a language which no one but yourself will ever use, go ahead. I don't care. But the idea of a conlang is to communicate among people who aren't contained in your own head.

Eventually most normal people want to talk with other people about something other than conlangs so they'll want an actual language they can learn easily, use naturally with which to talk to other people. It isn't a geeky form of gaming niche, it's a means of communication with normal people about other things.

Show less



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy you havent given any of us a reason to respect your thinking, because it's fucking stupid. and no, the idea of a conlang is not to communicate with others, it is an art form and of course you're gonna come up with some bullshit that only makes sense to you to refute that.



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy also, what the fuck, who said conlanging was a "gaming niche"? what the fuck are you on about?



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago (edited)

Apparently that's what it is for you. A language that can't communicate, that exists in the inventor's head, you don't need the word "conlang" for that, there's already a term for a language only one person can understand, it's called a "dead language" or, when no one else ever has or ever will understand it an aborted language. I wonder how many of your fellow gamester...



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Now you're just being a silly billy. I'm old enough that I remember when conlang discussions it the equivalent of the Society For Putting Things On Top of Other Things. It was about



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy each other's*

👍 8 💬



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy "silly billy"?? jesus christ man

👍 38 💬



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

So you don't want to reveal to the world how you would order a cup of coffee in your invented language?

How many of you geeks have learned each others languages? I'm guessing that you NEVER ...

👍 💬



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I was trying to use language you might understand.

👍 💬



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy you cant order cups of coffee because there arent any words for cup or coffee (yet) and it doesnt fucking matter if we learn eachother's or whoever uses them, a (con)language's worth is not defined on the amount of people who learn it and are you seriously calling us "geeks"?? do you live in the 1950s?? and also, we're geeks but you've been having ...

👍 44 💬



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Is there a word for "douchebag"?

So, you're telling me, pretty much, that your imaginary language is essentially as real as an imaginary friend.

👍 2 💬



sethraptor 3 years ago

My favorite kong lang is the DK rap

👍 89 💬



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy where the fuck did the imaginary friend come from what the fuck are you on about you crazy old fuck

👍 29 💬



SIGN IN

35

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

If you can't order coffee in it, I've got no use for it.

**BLACK SHEEP** 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy good for you

48

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago (edited)

"Crazy old fuck" as opposed to someone who makes up languages that no one will ever speak or use and which apparently aren't supposed to be communicated with.

If you can't deal with an absolutely obvious simile like that one, I'd really love to see what your invented languages are supposed to be like.

Do I get points for avoiding saying "callow young dick" for this long?

Show less

2

**BLACK SHEEP** 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy i do want people to see them which is why i post about them on reddit also no you dont get any fucking points this isnt a game jesus christ you are painful to communicate with

38

**BLACK SHEEP** 3 years ago

Akira Enderle i dont know if i pronounced it right but damn that* sounds good (* = assuming i pronounced it right)

6

**BLACK SHEEP** 3 years ago

Akira Enderle ive been doing spanish in school for two years and you can tell that very easily by the fact that i didnt realize that wasnt spanish (although to be fair most auxlangs borrow heavily from spanish), also i thought the spanish for and was y not e?? anyway thats a great looking script

4

**BLACK SHEEP** 3 years ago

Akira Enderle oh and also i was confused by the fact you said you spoke two languages, neither of which were espagnol (dont have n tilde on this keyboard)

4



5



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Go ahead.



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy what a scathing retort

11



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Akira Enderle thats pretty damn impressive man congrats

3



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I let him have that one. It wasn't worth topping.

Raymond Chandler, Playback



sethraptor 3 years ago

You could have just said the quote without citing it and saved me ten seconds of googling

29



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I don't quote without attribution. Though I might paraphrase.

Why did you google it? Fact checking?



sethraptor 3 years ago

I don't know who raymond chandler is, lol

29



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

If that's meant to be ironic, it's not. If it's true, I used to remember when people who liked to pretend they were smart made a minimum of effort at appearing informed. And here I thought my generation was a come down from the one before it.



sethraptor 3 years ago

I don't think that not recognizing the name of a novelist from the 30s makes me uninformed.



SIGN IN

He wrote up into the 1950s and as he's one of the most popular novelists America has had.
Yeah, it does make you uninformed.

You ever hear of Faulkner? Steinbeck?

What do they teach in schools these days?

Show less



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy youre a teacher and you dont know what they teach in schools?? youre the uninformed one



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I have teach private lessons, I haven't taught in a classroom in more than a decade.

So, you know who Faulkner and Steinbeck were?



sethraptor 3 years ago

I'm not that into literature outside of some sci-fi, and no they don't make you read hardboiled detective fiction in school. There's lots of things in the world to give your attention to, I don't think you can really rag on a guy for not knowing every important author, nowadays especially.



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

i dont have teach private lessons

old white people most likely



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

darn young'uns and your scientitism



sethraptor 3 years ago

If I knew I was going to be playing Jeopardy today, I would have studied.



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

My typical student is in their teens to early 20s.



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy how the fuck do you know

19



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I've read your comments.

Are you so stupid that you didn't see how I would answer that? If you're not Bruce Gilson you're his reincarnation.

1

Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago



At least tell me you know who Faulkner and Steinbeck are. I won't open a vein if you don't but it will shock me.



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy i know i just wanted to annoy you, also i already said i dont know

13



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I can hardly wait for you to publish your con lang. I forget, was yours the one which uses G. B. Shaw's alphabet? If so, a. it will never be adopted, b. you do know that Shaw wrote stuff, don't you.



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy you seem to have extreme difficult in typing the word "conlang", you've called them "conglangs", "conlangues" and now "con langs", theyre only 8 letters like come on youre a grown man

36



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Akira Enderle well obviously its not in esperanto and itll never work because its not esperanto and everything needs to be like esperanto because its the only real conlang

29



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Do you "like" your own comments?

Esperanto is the only conlang which has a large, international user community, an actual, readable literature, a history of continual use, actual usefulness, etc. It is used expertly by many people whose mother tongues are from a large number of family groups - not merely Indo-European. It is easily learned and in the experience of those who take the small effort to master



SIGN IN

century with just about complete comprehension. Whereas other languages such as Ido produce factions and schisms and one "reform" after another, always in the process of reformers coming up with reforms all on their own, Esperanto is stable going on a century and a quarter of actual use with minimal changes which don't impinge on its stability.

Let me know when even one person can actually say something in your language project, never mind the one other fluent user of it, the bare minimum for a language to actually exist as a language, before one of them stops using it or dies to join the other thousands of still-born constructed languages.

I'm more interested in using a language than in fantasizing about the language. I don't have lifetimes to wait for those fantasies to produce something useful and I don't need to because that already exists.

You are childish.

Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

The Shaw alphabet is used by no one except, apparently, those who want to get hold of money from the Shaw estate.

I was vaguely aware of it and that Androcles and the Lion had been issued in the alphabet. Reading a little - about as much time as I hope to spend on it in my life - I see that Androcles attempts to reproduce British received pronunciation which I sure as hell won't adopt, so the pretense that it is phonetic is out the window right there. I also see that someone has used it to publish some Poe. As Poe grew up in several different places in early early to mid 19th century United States and certainly didn't speak with a Brit Received pronunciation, I wonder if the imposition of it on his words isn't a complete distortion of them. I'd have to hear someone reading his poetry and prose in the Brit received to judge how ridiculous it was.

You do know that Poe was a writer, don't you?

I also see that, as with Ido, the supposed advocates of it disagree about what sounds to assign to the various letters. Let me know when there is universal agreement about that. In about a thousand years when it will all be more than moot.

People wined about the handful of accents in written Esperanto and thought that was a breaking point - though the use of "x" has arisen as a perfectly viable alternative to that even above Zamenhof's suggestion of using an "h" in that role. I use it all the time while typing, using a tiny little program to make those into accented letters at the touch of a key. Looking at the Shavian alphabet I count about five letters that would be recognizable to anyone who uses a Latin alphabet, so it turns that complaint about Esperanto on its head proposing an even less recognizable means of written communication. And considering such things as "ligatures" - ed, it is a thing of dotty eccentricity.



I can't think of a practice that would more quickly relegate a proposed language to a still birth. I'd suggest you rethink that one.

Show less

👍 2 🗨️



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy i wouldnt suggest they rethink, your word is not law, stop acting as though you have some kind of intellectual authority because you know a bunch of writers

👍 23 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Well, I'm glad you realize that someone reading about the Shavian alphabet for about twenty minutes online and noting the actual non-use of it and its ridiculously impractical and rather stupid features wouldn't make someone an "intellectual authority" on it. Though, far less, would not knowing that make someone an authority....

👍 🗨️



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy stupidity ensues though you cannot spell conlang right and youve repeated ignored the use of question marks. do not call people stupid if you dont know anything of their

intellect. im conversational in finnish, afrikaans and french and im well versed in the fields of astronomy, particle physics (to a lesser degree), neuroscience (lesser degree) and linguistics. i ...

👍 15 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Now you're getting whiny. If you hadn't noticed, Youtube comment's aren't exactly your higher level of university press. I'd rather include a few typos and misspellings (I'll bet you're unfamiliar with Shaw as a critic of standard English spelling) than to spout total nonsense and ignorance.

I can assure you, kid, that I'm a teacher going on many decades, having gone through undergrad and grad school before the age of spell check. You know, back when you were expected to have read something by writers like Steinbeck and Faulkner and others. Even people who went on to major in what they call STEM subjects, these days. Maybe you spent too much time on Aqua Teen and video games.

Anyone who thinks anyone uses the Shavian alphabet except to get money from his estate is silly. I would bet the fewer than a handful of books and the several issues of one magazine published in it have been read by more than about twenty to fifty people in the entire history of the effort. Including the authors and publishers, is silly. Probably only including them. It is a farce that Shaw couldn't do justice to. Mel Brooks came close in a movie script dealing with fraud for profit.

Show less





SIGN IN

Go look at his signatures, not to mention the spelling in the First Folio. Whoever wrote those plays and poems sure as hell wouldn't have known how to spell "conlang".

I doubt your alleged resume is any more real than your constructed "language". The idea that it's like an imaginary friend gains credibility with every one of your comments. You might be able to bluff your fellow "conlang" ranger boys with that but don't try to pull it on me, kid.

Show less



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy no, also they also wouldnt have been able to spell "phenomenology" because it wasnt a word at the time, as was not "conlang". also also, the inability of shakespeare to spell his own name is not at all relevant to your most-of-the-time misspelling of "conlang" also also also, are you honestly comparing yourself to shakespeare because you cant spell a word?? you are a ridiculous man

do you think im making this all up?? for my own entertainment, or perhaps to stoke my massive ego and assert my dominance as the intellectual he-oh wait, that's what you're doing. you think your knowledge of a bunch of irrelevant writers overrides my intelligence because i dont share the same views as you. i think toki pona is a valid conlang and that esperanto isnt that good and somehow that nullifies all the actually important things i know, because you dont agree. everyone who doesn't think the exact same as you is completely wrong because they arent you. are you really that solipsistic, that craven, self obsessed, that obsessed with self-assurance and validation that you base your views on others with how their's coincide with yours?? you're a grown man and whether or not youre good in arguments youre obviously a smart man with a class so grow up and act like the big boy you are

Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Well, he couldn't spell his own name. That was there.

I remember the champion speller in my class had a knack of visual memory but he was of rather low intelligence. I think he ended up working for the owner of a chain of laundromats. Don't know what he's doing now.

You'd have thought Emily Dickinson was an idiot too. You heard of her?

You're just sulking now. It's not much fun to tease someone who just sulks.

Show less



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy youre just rambling about irrelevant shit that has nothing to do with anything





SIGN IN

You are nuts.



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy no i am human



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Akira Enderle minä pidän tämää kaverea



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

My argument is that if people had problems with 6 accented letters in Esperanto they weren't about to adopt an alphabet that had only five letters they'd recognize at all.

Let me know when your imaginary friend and you can talk together in your imaginary language for 20 minutes at a time.

No, cancel that, I don't really care.

I suspect I knew most of those moons decades before you were born, bunky. I was a bit of a science geek when I was a kid.

Show less



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy only one of your last five replies have mentioned those six (not including this one of course), boy you will not let this imaginary friend thing go will you?? i didnt realize your massive knowledge of english literature gave you extensive insights the complex neurological

functions, patterns and idiosyncrasies of our brains. why ask if you dont wanna see it?? what ...



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

im sorry mitch rllly



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Akira Enderle is your reddit account akso akiraenderle?? im looking forward to seeing it, what's it called?





...you're helping your ignorance and confusion.

Do you "like" your own comments or do you "like" each other's? You should look up the song ...

👍 1 🗨️

A Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I think you should look up the history of all of those things you apparently figure were invented since you were born. I probably studied Spanish and German before you were born, too. Not to mention C++ though the last time I was associated with a college Pascal was the groovy language, I looked it up C++ was first published in 1985. Had you been born yet?

I doubt you know more than the word phenomenology I probably read Husserl before your parents were born. Look him up, bunky, he died in 1938. I'm assuming you know who he was, though that's assuming more than is safe with you.

I have found it funny to have you youngsters figuring that such stuff was after my time.

Show less

👍 🗨️

A Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Good luck with that "gather a large community around it" part of your scheme. I wouldn't suggest holding your breath waiting for it to happen.

I thought you boys were whining that this thread was getting too long and here you keep it going.

👍 🗨️

BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy "i doubt you know more about the word phenomenology i read husserl before your parents were born"??? what???

👍 19 🗨️

A Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Do I friggin' have to spell it out for you E-D-M-U-N-D H-U-S-S-E-R-L. If you don't know who he was you don't know crap about phenomenology. Let me guess, you read the word someplace and figured it sounded impressive. Geesh, what a bunch of phonies you guys are.

👍 🗨️

A Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Will prove me wrong in what sense and on what topic? If it's on constructing the universally accepted and used uber-perfect universal language, Zamenhof was a genius who came closest to doing that as proven by the history of the effort. Many of them thar professional linguists touted here tried to outdo him, some of them quite famous in their day. and their attempts are either totally dead or have been kept alive as brain dead corpses, just barely.



SIGN IN

What in the world ever happened to the idea of a liberal education? Well, I guess I should ask what ever happened to the idea of AN education.

Show less



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy phenomenology is the study of the structures of consciousness from the first person and no i used it bc i like how it sounds



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy also dont talk to us about spelling mr conglangue



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

If you don't know Edmund Husserl you don't know, literally, the first thing about phenomenology. You are a B. S. artist.



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy i dont know who he is but i do know the first thing about phenomenology which is that it's the first person study of structures of consciousness. there's no point knowing who made something before you know what the thing itself is



Daniel Alorbi 3 years ago

Nathan Harding Nathan Harding What's the argument about? Sounds like one guy likes Esperanto a lot dislikes Toki Pona a lot and everyone else is trying to show him that he should consider Toki Pona a conlang. It looks like it's devolved into questioning each other's authenticity too.

I'm going to give a stab at providing some facts

Everyone in this discussion at least knows more about conlangs and linguistics than the average person

Toki Pona was designed to be a simplistic conlang, the creator believes it to be one.

Esperanto has a big community, (possibly the biggest of existing conlangs)

Anthony measures conlangs against their potential to be used in everyday situations and expressiveness compared to natural languages

In conclusion Anthony will not accept that Toki Pona is a good conlang or even "truly" a conlang. Other members will not accept that only Toki Pona is not a conlang.

Sound about right?



SIGN IN



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Not exactly, Toki pona with its c. 120 word vocabulary cannot function as a language in real life. It's the conlang equivalent of a sheltered workshop.

If you want to see some discussion of people who knew what they were talking about, look up ...



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

If you don't know the literature of phenomenology you don't know anything about it except what you'll find in a dictionary or encyclopedia (and those would probably mention Husserl). And in the case of phenomenology, you can't get around the writings of Edmund Husserl which are the origin and heart of matter. It would be like claiming to know about physics without knowing th...



Grumble Bee 3 years ago (edited)

Anthony McCarthy Oh my god this is hilarious but at the same time sad. But mostly sad. Sometimes I hate being an Esperantist.



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

What's hilarious about it?

Cxu vi vere estas samideiano? Mi ne kredas ke vi vere estas.



Hæven 3 years ago

a



Rynabunny 3 years ago (edited)

I think you all have valid points. Anthony thinks of conlangs as tools for communication. To them, a bad conlang is one that fails at that (by being too simplistic, in the case of Toki Pona). The others think of a conlang as having its own purposes. Someone said conlang creation is an artform. Some people, myself included, create conlangs for fun and/or for personal use. They don't have to be perfect, or good for communication, or even useable (e.g. kay(f)bop(m)!). For a personal conlang, they just have to make its creator satisfied and it will have achieved its purpose. Different conlangs set out to achieve different goals. Esperanto arguably achieves a lot of its goals (relatively simple to learn, useful tool for communication) and yes, it is a good conlang in my opinion. But that doesn't automatically make Toki Pona a bad one. The latter also achieves its primary goals (extreme simplicity and ease of learning), perhaps even overachieving.

So I guess Anthony has a fairly narrow view of what a conlang should be, and that's fine! But it should be understood that not all conlangs had/have/will have exactly the same goals, and I



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

That's almost right, I distinguish between a language which is for communication and the creation of a pseudo-language structure which is not for communication but which is a personal amusement.

I said that I have no problem with people doing that if they want to or even playing with it, such as was the case of the Esperanto Youth Group of Toki Pona users who held a workshop-gathering session on it at a convention. I would like to hear how those people who can use a real con-lang for communications used it, wondering if they were able to give it an, as it were, maximal test of its limits. I don't have any problem with someone making up a pseudo-language using the Shavian alphabet but to compare a language like Esperanto or Ido to it is comparing apples to imaginary apples.

Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

The inventor of a language isn't the one who decides if it goes from being a mere project into becoming a real language, a community of users of the language does that. Let me know how that works for you.



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Un, maybe you should learn how to read English before you start counting your speakers before they hatch.



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

OK, so you don't know much about politics, either.

Did Bernie Sanders say exactly what you put in quotes? Where's your citation?

I never said either of those things or the rest of it. The government "seizing the means of production" doesn't mean that something is socialism. As far as I'm concerned that's not socialism because it is only when the WORKERS own the means of production that it's socialism as far as I'm concerned.

You are a silly.

Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Maybe you don't know how quotation works. When you say someone said something and put that something in quotation marks it indicates that you're claiming that they said what you put in



SIGN IN

of Horatio Alger. Whos the banana republic now?

He talked about income equality, not socialism.

Geesh, where did you go to school?

As for the definition of socialism, you should have read a bit down the page because your own citation mentions that the meaning of socialism has meant different things and has changed over time. I believe it was Lenin who decided it meant that the government owned the means of production, something I've never agreed with, especially a non-democratic government.

I'm not interested in any kind of socialism which means anything but that the workers who produce the wealth of an entity own the means of production, not someone who lends them money and who got paid off with interest several generations ago. I'm against anything but egalitarian democracy that includes economic justice.

You are a boob.

Show less



Alex Hayes 3 years ago

(200 comments)

(First posted a month ago)

(Most recent posted hours ago)

Guys.



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Hey, you make it 201.

I'm just answering people. If no one had responded to my first comment I'd probably have forgotten making it by now.



Ryan 3 years ago

Nice English m8.



Lyrion Rae 3 years ago

I have a question : are all esperantists douchebags and treat other languages with different purposes like trash ?

just asking...





10



Lyrion Rae 3 years ago

btw did you know that Conlang Critic made a video about this comment ?

21



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Is2DealYou Яаgia well its not esperanto so much it must be ridiculously terrible unless its mimicing esperanto

12



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Since you obviously mean me, what language did I do anything other than describe? Since we're talking about inventions, invented languages being inventions, if they don't work as a means of communication they're essentially games, in the case of most of those discused here, the equivalent of solitaire since no one else in the world but the inventor is ever going to even bother to learn of their existence or learn them. The one whose author claims they're going to use the Shavian alphabet doesn't even seem to have done the actual inventing, it's more of a fantasy than a game.

I don't care what silly people do among themselves but any real language is there for the purpose of communication between people. If it's only meant for the inventor to use, that's not a language. In most cases it's not even a personal code because talking about what they're intending to do is as far as it goes.

The historical fact is that the only conlang to have ever gained a substantial body of users who use it is Esperanto. It has stood the test of time and use since the end of the 19th century. If you learn the language as it's used today, you will have little, if any, trouble reading what's written in it for the entire history of the language. Ido has never had that level of stability and nothing like the flexibility. Though it is certainly simple to learn - if they'd stopped fiddling with it they might have gotten somewhere.

A lot was made in early conlang online discussion of Novial by one Bruce Gilson who managed to gather a few people together to make what I'm sure they believed would be just one last "reform" of that disused conlang before it took the lead. From what I gather, that effort petered out c. 1998 or so. This discussion is about on that same level. I've seen this B.S. for going on two decades now.

Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

No, for some reason I have no interest in listening to it.



Nicholas Layton 3 years ago (edited)



SIGN IN

exercise in futility. It's mental masturbation at best and will never be anything useful to anyone, ...

👍 10 💬



You Safar 3 years ago

[#notallesperantists](#)

People like Anthony are the main reason people kabei though (in my opinon).

👍 28 💬



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Oh, bite me.

👍 💬



Lyrion Rae 3 years ago

This is probably the largest comment argument in youtube i had seen.

👍 62 💬



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy the definition you see in a dictionary or encyclopaedia is the first thing about that thing, that's kinda the point

👍 10 💬



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

If people hadn't said what they did to my first comment I wouldn't have posted a second one here.

I've seen longer but, yeah, this has gone on a long time. But there is a precedent in the actual history of conlangs, I'd start that with the first agitation of the Ido promoters. I think the subsequent history of "better" conlangs and how, one after another, they went nowhere is an indication of what the future of them will be like. Meanwhile, Esperanto is the only one which has had any notable success. It is the only one with any proven history of actual use.

Show less

👍 💬



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Oh, so the definition of a word that they put first is the only real, right way to use a word and the rest of those uses, often by some very fine authors and thinkers, is, by that arbitrary fiat, wrong.

Well, there are some people who don't agree with that arbitrary rule which was never a rule I wa...

👍 1 💬



You Safar 3 years ago (edited)

You are assuming that all conlangs measure of success is how widespread their use is. In fact it s like a lot of the methods you use to dismiss other peoples points are based on using your



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Actually, what I thought was that he didn't know what he was talking about generally.

I said from the beginning that if anyone wants to play with Ido or Logban or some one of the other thousands of proposed language projects, I have no problem with them doing it. I don't have any problem with people making up some kind of personal code system as a language. But I do have a huge problem with them a. misrepresenting the history and content and proven usability of the one and only invented language to have gained a widespread user community. b. misrepresenting the success of other projects which failed to even gain a fixed form that people could learn without any guarantee that what they learned wouldn't be deemed "wrong" within a month of them learning it.

I don't have any interest in expanding my criticism of the author of the video except to say what I have.

Show less



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I don't think I'm going to change my mind that you are a very silly person who doesn't know what he's talking about and who doesn't know much of anything about Esperanto as it is used by the largest number of users of an invented language in the history of the effort to create one. That is if you don't count Bahasa Indonesia (a semi-invented language) which was imposed by government fiat and conquest.

I have never heard an Esperantist mention the "fina venko" except to tell jokes about the idea. Forcibly converting anyone to using Esperanto is entirely contrary to the intentions of Zamenhof and any sensible Esperantist I've ever read. It was always intended as a second language for communication between people who didn't share a common language, it was never intended to supplant peoples' first languages, like English and others have.

Show less



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Anthony McCarthy They share different opinions to you regarding Esperanto, so, of course, they're wrong and "very silly"



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

People are entitled to their own opinions they aren't entitled to their own "facts". The history is what it is, it isn't what they want it to be, the body of present day Esperanto users is what it is, and you can compare that with what their fantasy "languages" they seem to prefer talking about instead of inventing are not what they are not.



You Safar 3 years ago

I know you said you don't want to expand but I'm going to ask anyways. Which facts? Do you mean in this video? Or are you talking about the esperanto video? Mi pardonpetas pri la demandado, but I don't understand why you chose this video, or even this platform, for whatever point it is you are trying to make. Are you just upset that he was dismissive instead of asking fo...



10



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Things went way past a critique of the video a long, long time ago.

When I started this I intended to make one comment and if no one had answered it, it is the only comment I would have made. When I get notifications that people are responding to what I said, I don't see why I don't get to respond to them and when they start being snarky why I can't snark back. One thing I don't think I've been whiny or, as they say in Newfoundland, a sook. Not all who have commented here can say the same, honestly.

Show less



1



You Safar 3 years ago

You can't deny you've been a little snarky, but I agree with you, people have been a little combative. It's silly for you to blame people responding to you, however. What made you think people would be okay with you taking a pot shot at the creator of the video, and that they wouldn't call you out on it? I'm almost getting the impression that you never had a real critique ...



19



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Oh, for heavens sake, I'm not the one who's been whining about the length of this discussion thread that's the people who have been saying things I can respond to.

You are all Bruce Gilsons, phonies who won't ever come up with anything as you resent the ...



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Well, you got that they were at school and they were talking and there is a blond guy in the story and a few other things but, as I suspected, it didn't even carry the information in the first and easiest chapter in the book. I'd really love to read someone try to express what Linda was thinking about what she'd do if the blond guy got up and walked out. And that's not even nearly the most complex part of the story, coming in, if I recall correctly, about the first third of the book.

I doubt it could deal with the even earlier chapter when Tom is trying to talk the Nurse into coming to take care of Gerda who has collapsed in the hall.



SIGN IN

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**You Safar** 3 years ago

I don't know, the translation looks pretty good to me, although I've read Gerda and you're right, this isn't the most complicated chapter, although none of them really are complicated, and the story is straightforward enough I'm sure anything that was confusing could be guessed. It wouldn't be very elegant (some nested ni/pi statements, surely), but the story could be translated if someone felt the desire to do it.

(to anyone considering it, please direct your expertise towards marvirinstrato instead! Meduset is begging to be in toki pona, and mine isn't good enough to write yet)

Anthony, have you seen the monty python translation? It's very good:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20041116173522/http://www.geocities.com/tokipona/text/mphg.html>

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**Lyrion Rae** 3 years ago

I think I get Anthony's point of view: Any language out there that isn't designed for communication does not deserve to be called a language. (Or it fails to be one).

**You Safar** 3 years ago

1) There are more dimensions to a language than its ability to be specific and; 2) There is also communication with yourself internally. Since you already know what you're talking about, it doesn't matter if you're able to be specific. This being valid depends on whether or not you believe that the language(s) you know change the way you think. I do, obviously.

I understand the point of view, It's just limited IMO. A language is, or at the very least can be, more than just a tool for interpersonal communication.

Show less

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

A personal code is not the business of anyone else and I doubt it's interesting to anyone else. I don't have any problem with people doing whatever they want to as long as they're honest about the nature of it and don't claim that it compares to real languages which are designed to communicate with other people. By making public claims of that sort, they've taken it outside of the internal, personal realm and anyone can comment on it if they choose to.

I said I didn't have any problem with anyone playing with Toki Pona or any other "language" as long as they were making absurd claims for it.

Show less



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The original sentence I challenged someone to translate was, "Donald Trump fired James Comey to try to stop the Russian election hacking investigation".

👍 1 🗨️



You Safar 3 years ago

"jan Donald Trump li kama e ni: jan James Comey li jo ala e pali tan ni: ona li wile pake e ni: ona li lukin e ante losi pi wile ma"

Not my translation, but it's pretty close.

👍 14 🗨️



You Safar 3 years ago

Also can we please not have an off-topic debate about russians or trump or comey start in this thread.

👍 17 🗨️



You Safar 3 years ago

"place desire" = country will / desire of the land / election.

Donald Trump caused this:

James Comey doesn't have a job because:

he wanted to stop this:

he was looking into the Russian change of the will of the land

My best guess.

Show less

👍 11 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Donald Trump SAID HE FIRED JAMES COMEY TO STOP THE RUSSIAN INVESTIGATION. The rest of it was window dressing and a smoke screen.

You have obviously bought the neo-fascist, FOX narrative that pretends that Trump didn't say ...

👍 1 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

It is not off-topic because I was giving an example of something important that Toki Pona could not express.

I wasn't aware that there was some ban on subject matter on this comment thread, there was plenty of extraneous junk brought in by those opposing me, Phenomenology, for crying out loud, and by someone who obviously didn't know more than the word without knowing what it meant.

Try translating that into Toki Pona.

Show less



want to say Trump said you just add jan Trump toki e ni.. If you want to say he dreamt it you could add that. If you wanted to say he wasn't sure if he dreamt it or not but it probably happened you could say that too. How far back did you want to move the goalposts this time?

17



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

I meant a "translation" of what I said in the comment.

The "translations" a. don't contain the content of the original sentence, b. convey the meaning of the sentence, c. let anyone who doesn't know what is in the original sentence know what it says. Those "translations" are not translations anymore than a circle drawn on a piece of paper is a portrait of a real person.

How many languages do you speak? I mean real ones, not "Toki Pona".

Show less

1



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

You are a Republican idiot and a traitor to democracy.

1



Lyrion Rae 3 years ago

You people are in politics now?

26



Alex Hayes 3 years ago (edited)

+Akira Enderle

"Libertarian"

Well, there's your problem. Now can we please get back to watching Anthony spend over **three irrecoverable months of his life** actively writing about how a language can't be simple lest it lose its status as a language? Don't get me wrong, I'm enjoying this thread in the same way I like to go laugh at /r9k/ sometimes, but fucking really? This is still happening? Either way, we're here for the linguistics, get out of here with this shit Akira. (Also, Akira, was the near-impeachment of Nixon treachery towards democracy? He was, after all, democratically elected. Don't actually answer that, you're proving nothing, and this is derailed enough.)

I would also kindly suggest that any future commentators also take this discretion.

(Also, direct question to Anthony: the information is being retained, you just have to jump through some grammatical hoops. Is that not okay? Is Japanese not a real language because the grammatically correct sentence "Watashi wa ringo ga suki desu" translates to English literally as "As for myself, apple(s) are liked (by me)" instead of "I like apples"? Is Lojban not a language for its reliance on abstract predicate logic to fuel its grammar (Can't give an example, I only know basic theory, not actual words/syntax)? Spanish translates "I am 20 years old" to "Tengo 20 años" back to "(I) have 20 years", is that unacceptable? Is it simply the number of

essions that Toki Pona must make that invalidates it? Even with all these questions, there's



SIGN IN

rhyming? Take all this with a grain of salt of course, since I do not speak toki pona, but I would still like clarification rather than "The language is too simple to speak complex thought with. Oh, you want an example? Nah, it's pretty self-evident, please translate something for me. When we back translated it, it sounds clunky and doesn't contain every detail I wanted but did not specify, so you've just proved my point, lol.")

Show less

👍 29 🗨️



Lyrion Rae 3 years ago

Why is this discussed here instead of Conlang Critic's Esperanto Video?

👍 14 🗨️



You Safar 3 years ago

Why are politics discussed in a conlang video? I'm convinced Anthony offered up that sentence just to ignore the translation that was offered and pretend like he had a good reason to yell at strawmen about Trump. People, don't be like Anthony, learn toki pona instead of Esperanto! (or learn both or neither, I don't care). If the we vs. Anthony argument can even still be considered a real, valid debate, I think it's become clear we're never going to win.

mi wile e ni: jan ali ni li kama sona e toki pona. Ĝis y'all

Show less

👍 18 🗨️



Alex Hayes 3 years ago

Akira Enderle

Oh my god, this has to be bait. At least you're on topic...

👍 1 🗨️



You Safar 3 years ago (edited)

ni li kama jo ike: jan lawa kama jo e mani pi jan anpa

ni li kama jo ike: jan lawa li jo e mani pi jan anpa (second kama is probably not needed)

This is an immoral way to acquire: leaders (coming to) have the money from subjects

👍 6 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

You have resorted to outright lying that is contradicted by the very claims of Donald Trump and the sworn testimony of people who have enormous credibility.

👍 🗨️



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago

Toki pona isn't just "simple" it is inadequate for communication.

I didn't claim that Lojban wasn't a language, I said it was an invented language which was

needed to demonstrate a linguistic theory from the 1930s which just about no credible linguist



between people who don't share a non-planned language.

You obviously share something with the people who have kept this going by spouting nonsense, you can't understand anything in any but the most ridiculously pat, black or white terms. Obviously the problem of coming up with a useful lingua franca used in addition to your native tongue is more complex than most of those here can deal with. As I said, I saw this kind of stuff on conlang comment treads back in the 1990s. You can still read those online. Anti-Esperantists tend to not know much of what they're talking about, though some pro-Idoists do, actually, know what they're talking about. I disagree with some of what they believe but at least they have some foot in reality.

Show less



You Safar 3 years ago

tokipona.net works great, in addition to sonjas book. There aren't really an overwhelming number of resources so its acceptable, I think, to just try whatever you come across and see if you like it. Also, make sure to practice talking with other people, there are a few great chats on IRC/Discord/Facebook/Telegram, and probably others



Alex Hayes 3 years ago

+Anthony Mcarthy

Oh, would you look at that, a continuation of an utter lack of example-based evidence, just more spouting of the self-evident "it's inadequate". Wow. I am trembling from utter fear.

+Akira Enderle...

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You Safar 3 years ago

That's not a bad point, and you bring up a decent valid criticism of toki pona, which is the choice of certain shared definitions (and even the inclusion of certain words).

I personally learned toki pona mostly through Esperanto, so the inter-language point is intriguing to me. Although I think just memorizing phrases in another language would probably do as much good as learning the grammar and definitions involved with toki pona, it's still funny that both would probably work about as well.

More drama: My personal biggest problem with toki pona is that if someone does not understand something you say in toki pona, it can be almost impossible to explain it to them without resorting to another language, as most of the time it is difficult to find an entirely different way of phrasing something that means the same thing.

Show less



Rae 3 years ago



SIGN IN

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

If no one had answered me with misinformation I'd have left it at the 1st comment.

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

"My personal biggest problem with toki pona is that if someone does not understand something you say in toki pona, it can be almost impossible to explain it to them without resorting to another language, as most of the time it is difficult to find an entirely different way of phrasing something that means the same thing."

A language which needs another language to explain what is meant in it is no language at all. It reminds me of the description of the Volapuk meeting which had to be conducted in German because Volapuk was so cumbersome and that one of the early Ido propagandists had to correspond with LL Zamenof in French because he didn't know Esperanto. As well as the letter by another condemning Esperanto as compared to Ido which was written in Esperanto.

This discussion has convinced me of one thing, anyone who believes you can conduct your life in a language of 120 words either has a very simple-minded life or they are simple minded.

Show less

**You Safar** 3 years ago

You must be a very sad person to try to bait people you repeatedly insist you are superior than.

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

That replying to me? You boys can stop any time and I can assure you I won't post another comment here. It's not as if any of it was at all difficult.

**Anthony McCarthy** 3 years ago

Oh, and, by the way, how come you guys use more than 120 words of English? I challenge you to carry on a conversation about this in Toki Pona among yourselves and see if you understand each other.

**Alex Hayes** 3 years ago (edited)

+Akira Enderle

It turns out that I actually do like the taste of bait. Anywho, you're ideals are flawed. Why can't there be conflicting material on a news outlet? A truly neutral news outlet would have opinions from both sides, and quite a few of those examples from the album do. I mean really, do you ...

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SIGN IN

there but I guess that's what happens when a youtube comment thread lasts over three heckin months.

my favorite part of this (okay, ONE of my favorite parts of this. I can't just choose one part to like it's all so good) is that Anthony keeps saying that if nobody responded to his first comment this thread wouldn't've happened. it's really funny because the first comment he made was saying that I don't speak any con-languages that fit a really specific set of requirements that literally only apply to Esperanto and my response was literally just repeating the last thing he said and then after that I made a joke about being born after radios stopped being relevant

and somehow THAT provoked Anthony into writing these heckin essays about how toki pono or whatever it is isn't a real language because it doesn't have very many words (that's the point of the language, you dingus!)

my other favorite part is when he wrote a multiparagraph response to when sethraptor said "lol". that was really good

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👍 109 🗨



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Conlang Critic cong-languages* stupid kids

👍 28 🗨



BLACK SHEEP 3 years ago

Conlang Critic in seriousness, yeah sethraptor has been amazing in this argument lmao

👍 25 🗨



Anthony McCarthy 3 years ago (edited)

"the first comment he made was saying that I don't speak any con-languages that fit a really specific set of requirements that literally only apply to Esperanto"

You should learn the difference between a question and a declarative sentence, at the very least you should actually re-read what I said in that comment which wasn't want you say.

"and my response was literally just repeating the last thing he said and then after that I made a joke about being born after radios stopped being relevant"

I wonder when you believe "radios stopped being relevant". I'm sure they'll find that interesting at the BBC, Deutsche Welle, All India Radio, Radio China, Voice of America, etc. As they still sell them and large parts of the world, especially in the developing world, depend heavily on radio you don't seem to know much about that either. Certainly a language which is broadcast regularly on the radio is more relevant than one which never has been and never will be. I wonder how you would define "relevance". How do you say "relevant" in Toki Pona?

^--- you complaining that people are commenting on your Youtube channel? That's weird, most



jan Misali 3 years ago

don't get me wrong, I love everything about this thread. it's one of the funniest things I've ever seen and I'm glad to have inspired it. that bit there where you pretended not to know that it's possible to say something in the form of the question? fantastic! I love reading stuff like that



jan Misali 3 years ago

also, "relevant" is "suli". if you wanna get more specific, you could say something like "suli lon tenpo ni".



[↪ Show more replies](#)



Limp Bucket 3 months ago

Imagine thinking being able to refer to nonbinary people is some kind of political agenda



[▼ View 13 replies](#)



Atruv 4 months ago

Jan, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the beauty that is the Anthony McCarthy's comment section. It's been over an hour and I'm still reading it, truly the most entertaining hour I've ever had. Thank you.



[▼ View 9 replies](#)



one.of.the.poisoned 3 months ago

Who even speaks this language?



SIGN IN

"Ido"

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70 REPLY

[View 6 replies](#)
**rootbeergoat** 3 months ago

It's wild that people would whine about someone talking about nonbinary people or sexism in a conlang video, calling them "POLITICAL!!!!" Culture, history, and politics are all almost inseparably intertwined with language, and that includes conlangs. To make a wholly apolitical conlang video you would simply be talking about how a language feels with absolutely no context, which is boring in ...

53 REPLY

**Celt of Canaan Esurix** 3 years ago (edited)

Might want to turn the music a tad bit down, I had difficulty hearing. Also first comment!

334 REPLY

[View 2 replies](#)
**Ita Ash** 3 years ago

I guest V0tgil is on the bottom forever.

168 REPLY

[View 6 replies](#)
**Saw Nick the Dead Memer** 4 months ago

Esperan2: Electric Idoloo

28 REPLY

[View 6 replies](#)
**matthew fanous** 3 years ago

that pannenkoak meme came straight out of nowhere, and i freaking love it

105 REPLY

[View 5 replies](#)
**GubDM** 11 months ago

I did not expect to spend hours of my day today reading the beautiful shit storm that was the [#NewRadioShows](#) comment thread. Big thank you to the presumably late Anthony McCarthy. Life comes at you fast.



▼ [View reply](#)



Todd Tolson 1 year ago

Is /ts/ a sound an English speaker can't easily produce? I don't think we have a single sound which represents it, but what about "cats"? The coda should at least approximate the sound, right?

👍 36 🗨️ [REPLY](#)

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Hand Sanitizer Attack 3 years ago

The music near the end was way too loud. Also, I love this series, but I find it hard to focus on your voice when you talk that fast and have a pretty bad mic.

👍 144 🗨️ [REPLY](#)

▼ [View 2 replies](#)



Kaiser Tyranny 1 year ago

I want to give a shout-out to Anthony for brightening up my drunken evening.

👍 15 🗨️ [REPLY](#)



Gnowos 3 years ago

The music was a bit loud near the end, I could barely hear what you were saying, but otherwise a good review, keep up the good work!

👍 84 🗨️ [REPLY](#)

▼ [View 2 replies](#)



Mr. Rich B.O.B 2 years ago

"If you don't know what Esperanto is, please tell me how you found this video and why you're watching it..." Dude, I can honestly say, I have never legitly laughed out loud in my life, before.

👍 4 🗨️ [REPLY](#)



Phil M 3 years ago (edited)

The reason why X was adopted was to combine the sounds "kz" and "ks" (and the French and Polish "gz", although missing in Esperanto AFAIK) into a single letter that can be freely pronounced in either of the three ways. That way, "ekzameno" and "ksilofono" are spelt "exameno" and "xilofono" in Ido, and can keep the original pronunciation or be pronounced "eksameno" and "kzilofono" or "egzameno" and "gzilofono". It is a simplification, since notably French (sorry for mentioning French, I know some Esperantists are allergic to it but it's my native tongue) pronounces these Xs like GZ, and apparently English simply pronounces them like Z. It's also more appropriate in a historical sense, since the word "ekzameno" comes from Latin "exāmen", in which the X is pronounced like KS, not KZ, in Classical Latin. This wide range of possibilities on how to pronounce the letter X shows that Esperanto's orthography (and thus imposed pronunciation) is very Russocentric — that's not even Polish in nature, since the



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as it doesn't sound completely different, e.g. like SH) is easier to learn and apply than imposing the pronunciation from a single language.

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👍 16 💬 REPLY



Paulo Victor de Jesus Moraes 3 years ago

Is there even gonna be any language you like more than toki pona?

👍 55 💬 REPLY

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ra sak 3 years ago

Don't put the music so loud! Please, i almost can't understand your voice

👍 66 💬 REPLY



Aeon Maujean 3 years ago

That music near the end is very distracting and nearly drowns out your speech.

👍 22 💬 REPLY



ads13000 3 years ago

Just a question: What does it take for a conlang to be reviewed by you?
Does it have to be sufficiently known? Does it just have to be reasonable? etc.

👍 30 💬 REPLY

▼ [View 3 replies from jan Misali and others](#)

